

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING APRIL 10, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: While average temperatures were warmer than normal during the week, most weather stations reported at least a trace of precipitation. High winds continued across much of the State, drying surface soils and vegetation. The largest precipitation accumulation, 0.65 inch, was recorded at El Morro, followed by 0.62 and 0.55 inch at Gran Quivira and Pederal, respectively. In Curry County, reporter comments indicated that dryland wheat continued to deteriorate under extremely dry conditions, while the irrigated crop was being extensively watered where water supplies allowed. The majority of wheat-fed cattle had been marketed. Scattered rain showers - the first moisture received in over 40 days - were reported in Rio Arriba County, where irrigation started in the Espanola Valley during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 2 to 9 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 63 degrees at Chama to 92 degrees at Carlsbad. Roswell also climbed to the 90 degree mark during the week. Overnight lows varied from 14 degrees at El Vado Dam to 44 degrees at Truth or Consequences. Statewide, spring planting was just beginning, with fieldwork noticeable in some corn and cotton circles. Alfalfa hay was being harvested in a limited number of fields. Cabbage in Dona Ana County was reported in good condition. Depending on location, native pastures showed signs of spring green up; however, substantial moisture remains a necessity to prevent deterioration into a severe drought situation. Supplemental feeding for cattle, especially nursing cows, continued virtually statewide in order to keep cattle in decent condition. Numerous ranchers in Union County reportedly have cattle that were suffering from exposure to loco weed. Wheat pastures in Union County were reportedly approximately 65 percent stocked with cattle. The crop’s condition depended heavily on the number of head and length of time spent grazing, but most fields had stands approximately 8 to 10 inches tall. Feed and concentrate supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 83 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 62 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	2	NA	2	3
Chile planted	45	34	71	66
Cotton planted	15	4	9	9
Onions				
Planted.....	85	76	96	98
Emerged	60	33	45	NA
Sorghum planted	1	--	--	--
Winter wheat headed.....	12	NA	1	1
Cows calved	57	36	41	NA
Ewes lambbed	50	24	36	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves	82	80	83	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	41	53	79	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.5	6.0	6.7	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	11	14	55
Short	63	70	44	26
Adequate	27	19	42	19
Surplus	--	--	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	9	10	12	NA
Short	35	37	26	NA
Adequate	56	53	62	NA
Surplus	--	--	--	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	6
Poor.....	2	2	1	6
Fair.....	49	56	22	34
Good	34	26	43	43
Excellent	15	16	34	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor	3	3	8	39
Poor.....	16	13	11	28
Fair.....	46	49	39	22
Good	32	31	31	9
Excellent	3	4	11	2
Spring lettuce				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Fair.....	--	--	--	NA
Good	100	100	95	NA
Excellent	--	--	5	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor	3	3	1	35
Poor.....	16	16	3	19
Fair.....	37	44	45	24
Good	42	35	45	16
Excellent	2	2	6	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	3	4	4	NA
Fair.....	37	42	39	NA
Good	53	47	54	NA
Excellent	5	5	2	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	18	24	19	NA
Poor.....	15	18	18	NA
Fair.....	12	12	14	NA
Good	54	45	49	NA
Excellent	1	1	--	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/NM_Weather_04102016.pdf